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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/001,688	10/25/2001	Theodore R. Sana	10010819-1	3172

7590 05/21/2003

AGILENT TECHNOLOGIES, INC.
Legal Department, DL429
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[REDACTED] EXAMINER

TUNG, JOYCE

[REDACTED] ART UNIT [REDACTED] PAPER NUMBER

1637

DATE MAILED: 05/21/2003

10

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/001,688	Sana et al.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Joyce Tung	1637
		

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on Mar 4, 2003.

2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-12 and 15-19 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above, claim(s) 1-5 and 9-12 is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) 6-8 and 15-18 is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) 19 is/are objected to.

8) Claims 1-12 and 15-19 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

11) The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) approved b) disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.

12) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

13) Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) All b) Some* c) None of:
1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

*See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

14) Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).
a) The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.

15) Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)	4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)	5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s). _____	6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____

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DETAILED ACTION

1. This application contains claims 1-5 and 9-12 drawn to an invention nonelected with traverse in Paper No. 7. A complete reply to the final rejection must include cancellation of nonelected claims or other appropriate action (37 CFR 1.144) See MPEP § 821.01.
2. The amendment filed 3/04/2003 has been entered. Following the entry of the amendment, claims 1-12 and 15-19 are pending.
3. The rejection of claims 6-8 and 15-17 under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph is withdrawn.
4. The rejection of claims 7 and 16 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph is withdrawn.
5. The rejection of claims 6-8 and 15-17 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) anticipated by Kourilsky et al. is withdrawn.

NEW GROUNDS OF REJECTIONS NECESSITATED BY THE AMENDMENT

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

6. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

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This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

7. Claims 6-8 and 15-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kourilsky et al.(Biochemical and Biophysical Research Communications, 1970, Vol. 41(4), pg. 1080-1087) in view of Guo et al. (Nucleic acid research, 1994, Vol. 22(24), pg. 5456-5465).

Kourilsky et al. disclose that DNA-RNA hybridization takes place at relatively low temperature in the presence of urea which is the claimed chemical component R(NH₂)C=O (See pg. 1080, the Introduction) in which R=NH₂ is urea (See pg. 10, lines 5-9 of the specification).

Kourilsky et al. do not disclose using a glass substrate in which an oligonucleotide is attached.

Guo et al. disclose a simple and rapid method for analysis of genetic polymorphisms. The method involves using allele-specific oligonucleotide arrays bound to glass supports (See pg. 5465).

One of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made would have been motivated to apply the allele-specific oligonucleotide arrays bound to glass support to the method

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of Kourilsky et al. for DNA-RNA hybridization in order to carry out the method of the instant invention. By using the support-bound oligonucleotides, the method reduces the difficulty of finding uniformly applicable hybridization conditions and decreases the spatial resolution required in detection (See pg. 5456, column 2, last paragraph) It would have been prima facie obvious to apply the allele-specific oligonucleotide arrays bound to glass support to the method of Kourilsky et al. for DNA-RNA hybridization in order to carry out the instant invention.

Allowable Subject Matter

8. Claim 19 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

9. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

No prior art has been found teaching or suggesting a method that allows a probe and target to hybridize at a temperature lower than their standard hybridization temperature in which the probe and target are heated in the presence of acetamide.

10. No claims are allowable.

11. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

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A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

12. Any inquiries concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Joyce Tung whose telephone number is (703) 305-7112. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 8:00 AM-4:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Gary Benzion can be reached at (703) 308-1119 on Monday-Friday from 10:00 AM-6:00 PM.

Any inquiries of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Chemical/Matrix receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0196.

13. Papers related to this application may be submitted to Group 1600 by facsimile transmission. Papers should be faxed to Art Unit 1637 via the PTO Fax Center located in Crystal

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Mall 1 using (703) 305-3014 or 308-4242. The faxing of such papers must conform with the notice published in the Official Gazette, 1096 OG 30 (November 15, 1989).

Joyce Tung

May 11, 2003

Jeffrey Siew
JEFFREY SIEW
PRIMARY EXAMINER
5/11/03